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ABSTRACT

The first intensive exposure to organized dissemination at the state, regional, and national level for many of the participants, this 2-day conference consisted of a series of sessions held in Honolulu and neighboring islands. Explanations of how these dissemination efforts are organized and operated were followed by detailed information on the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System (HEDDS) and the National Diffusion Network (NDN). Special packets distributed to participants contained descriptions of services offered by HEDDS, and HEDDS staff demonstrated their information retrieval services. Participants also had the opportunity to examine several of NDN's exemplary educational programs approved by the JDRP (Joint Dissemination Review Panel) and interact with the Developer/Demonstrators. The opening session in Honolulu was attended by 75 district and state level personnel, with 250 teachers, administrators, and district and state level personnel attending the exemplary program presentations in the afternoon. Similar sessions on Maui, Kauai, and Hawaii the following day were attended by 190 teachers, administrators, and district level personnel. This report includes the agenda, objectives, design, and evaluation of the conference. (RAA)

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HAWAII STATE DISSEMINATION CONFERENCE

"Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System"

Kamehameha Schools
October 19, 1979

Islands of Maui, Kauai and Hawaii
October 20, 1979

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In cooperation with
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory

An Action Report

Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
DISSEMINATION PROGRAM
710 S.W. Second Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

February 1980

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Introduction

The Hawaii State Dissemination Conference was highly significant in that it represented the first intensive exposure to organized dissemination efforts in the state, as well as national and regional efforts, for many of the 75 participants who attended the first part of the conference. Participants at these initial sessions were provided with detailed information on the services available from the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System (HEDDS) staff.

Sponsored by the Hawaii State Department of Education and hosted by the Kamehameha Schools in Honolulu on October 19 and in the neighboring islands on October 20, the conference featured speakers who explained how national, regional and state dissemination efforts are organized and operated. Ten categories of participants attended the conference, which focused attention on the content areas of Compensatory Education, Exceptional Children, Occupational Development, Bilingual Education and Basic Skills.

A special feature of the conference was the series of sample packets of awareness materials distributed to participants. The packets contained examples of the various kinds of information HEDDS has available, HEDDS brochures and request forms, one-page descriptions of JDRP validated programs and a glossary of dissemination terms. The packets were prepared and distributed according to the subject-specific interests of the area specialists in attendance.

Conference participants had the opportunity to meet the HEDDS staff and to sample the information retrieval services HEDDS has to offer. They heard themselves challenged by Dr. Von Valletta, Deputy Commissioner of Education, State of Minnesota, to find ways to strengthen their school

improvement efforts by finding ways to collaborate and to pool their resources.

Background

Prior to describing conference activities in detail, it may be helpful to provide some background information on how the conference came to be held, especially for readers of this document who were not directly involved in the planning efforts.

The Hawaii Department of Education, recognizing the value of inter-agency collaboration and sharing, particularly in an era of scarce resources, has worked closely with Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory's Dissemination Program to create a system for resource exchange in the state and the region. Department of Education staff were therefore very eager to join with the Dissemination Program and the other states in the region in what has come to be called the Northwest Regional Dissemination Configuration Project.[1]

Supported by the National Institute of Education, the Configuration Project has made possible a resource sharing conference in each of the states. It is also providing support for the development of notebooks which describe educational resource and service groups in each state. Hawaii's conference and forthcoming resource notebook, therefore, have a dual purpose: While the conference and the notebook are organized around the particular concerns of Hawaii educators, they are also intended to support the eventual development of a regional resource sharing network.

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[1] Together, the states of Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington comprise the Northwest Regional Exchange, coordinated by the NWREL Dissemination Program. The Configuration is a special project of the Exchange.

Conference Activities

The conference was opened by Kathleen Steffen, HEDDS Project Coordinator, who made several introductions and reviewed the objectives of the conference. Mr. Charles Clark, Superintendent of Schools for Hawaii, welcomed the group.

Mr. Clark's welcome was followed by a series of presentations designed to increase awareness of dissemination efforts nationally, regionally and in the state.

Ms. Virginia Thompson, Director of the NWREL Dissemination Program, reviewed the history of dissemination efforts, shared information about a national dissemination perspective and described current dissemination activities in the Northwest region. Thompson discussed the Configuration Project and the support role played by the NWREL Dissemination Program in assisting the state and the region to further their educational dissemination efforts. Major points in Thompson's presentation included:

- The role of the Dissemination Program is a support role, not a policymaking one. Policy is the province of the educational agencies in each state.
- A major challenge currently facing states in the region and the nation is the need to engage in resource exchange, especially in an era of scarce resources, even though organizations and individuals within them are understandably protective of their time and territory.
- Resources, in this context, include time, talent, materials and money.
- Findings from recent studies on the subject of resource exchange networks can assist members of the educational community to learn about and develop plans for resource sharing.
- The NWREL Dissemination Program is organized into "state consultant teams" which provide support and assistance to those involved in educational dissemination, resource exchange and communications networking in each state.
- Conference participants are invited to call upon the Northwest Lab and the Dissemination Program for technical assistance and professional support.

Following Thompson's presentation, Dr. James Aven explained how the National Diffusion Network (NDN) functions, describing its history and growth. Additional information about the NDN, including presentations by 17 Developer/Demonstrators, comprised the second part of the state conference.

Dr. Kellet Min, HEDDS project director, outlined the activities of the HEDDS system for the group. Min explained how the state is working to integrate the dissemination of information about R&D outcomes with the diffusion of R&D outcomes as carried out through the NDN. He outlined the details of the HEDDS plan and described the services the HEDDS staff can provide to facilitate school improvement in Hawaii.

In order to provide a context for his discussion of the plan, Min presented the definition of dissemination developed by the National Dissemination Analysis Group and ratified by participants at the National Dissemination Forum in 1977. The spread/exchange/choice/implementation dimensions of that definition were then utilized as a framework for presenting the resource, linkage and leadership components of the HEDDS plan.

Min's discussion of the resource component included an overview of the activities of HEDDS staff which are aimed at increasing the availability of ideas, programs, projects, practices and materials to teachers, principals and other educators. The process of identifying needs, conducting searches and establishing an appropriate balance between using computerized and manual data bases was outlined by Min, along with underscoring the need to include in the resource base material from local, national, commercial and governmental sources.

Identifying linkage as the connection between knowledge resources and their intended beneficiaries, Min gave examples of linkage activities and spoke of the provisions necessary to equip educators to serve in linkage

roles. He further outlined the ways in which a strong linkage system can foster practitioner capability to bring about improvements in educational practices.

Min then presented an overview of the leadership component of the plan, which includes the major functions of planning, supporting and evaluating. He outlined these functions and pointed to the goal of state educational leadership--the creation of environments in which individuals can work together productively to accomplish group goals.

Following a lunch served by the staff of the Kamehameha School, Dr. Von Valletta, Deputy Commissioner of Education for the State of Minnesota, challenged the group to find ways to improve the coordination of their many dissemination and diffusion activities. She indicated that, as a result of several federal initiatives over the years, the state now has the means and the structures available to coordinate the use of resources to bring about school improvement and increased equity.

The next conference activity was a series of small group discussions led by members of HEDDS staff. Five small groups, organized around content specialty areas, were convened. The groups were Basic Skills, Bilingual Education, Compensatory Education, Exceptional Child Education and Vocational Education. As the groups met, the HEDDS staff led the discussion based on four objectives:

1. To assure clarification of terms and to obtain reactions to the presentations
2. To identify information needs
3. To identify dissemination efforts of the participants
4. To consider alternatives for future directions

Although discussion time was brief, the meetings were significant. The "Evaluating Small Group Discussions" (part of Attachment D) details participant responses to these sessions and lists the initial needs which were identified.

For many, this meeting was the first time dissemination efforts had been systematically presented. It provided an opportunity for mutual sharing. It was the first time state and district specialists had met together by content area to discuss dissemination. HEDDS staff had an opportunity to talk directly with their client group and to open new lines of communication with their state colleagues.

The final conference activity was a series of presentations made by Developer/Demonstrators of exemplary educational programs approved by the Joint Dissemination Review Panel (JDRP). Two hundred fifty teachers, administrators and district and state personnel attended these sessions.

The second day of the HEDDS Conference was conducted on the islands of Maui, Kauai and Hawaii. During these sessions, participants heard presentations about national, regional and state dissemination activities and attended presentations of exemplary JDRP-approved educational programs by Developer/Demonstrators in the National Diffusion Network.

Planners and participants were in agreement that the conference represented a significant step in the state's efforts to further educational improvement and equity through coordinated dissemination activities.

ATTACHMENTS

A Conference Agenda, October 19, 1979

B Conference Objectives

C Conference Design

D Conference Evaluation

ATTACHMENT A

HEDDS
hawaii educational dissemination diffusion system
hawaii state department of education
PLANNING AND EVALUATION BRANCH
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HAWAII EDUCATIONAL DISSEMINATION DIFFUSION SYSTEM CONFERENCE

The Kamehameha Schools — October 19, 1979

PROGRAM

8:00-8:30	Registration; Packet Pick-up
8:30	WELCOME -Honorable Charles G. Clark Superintendent of Schools
9:00	PRESENTATIONS
	1. National and Regional Dissemination Efforts -Virginia Thompson Director, Dissemination Program Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
	2. The National Diffusion Network -Dr. James Aven Program Officer U.S. Office of Education
10:00-10:15	Coffee Break
10:15	3. The Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System (HEDDS) -Dr. Kellet Min Project Director Administrator, Planning Services
10:30-11:20	QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD FOR PRESENTERS
11:30-12:30	LUNCH

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12:30	"Improving Coordination Among Dissemination and Diffusion Activities" -Dr. Von Valletta Deputy Commissioner of Education State of Minnesota
1:00-2:20	SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS
2:30-3:00	SMALL GROUP REPORTING

3:30	AUDITORIUM NATIONAL DIFFUSION NETWORK WELCOME -Mr. Ichiro Fukumoto Director, Planning and Evaluation Services The Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System (HEDDS) -Dr. Kellet Min The National Diffusion Network -Dr. James Aven Introductions of Developer/Demonstrators -Kathleen Steffen HEDDS Project Coordinator
4:10-5:00 5:10-6:00 6:10-7:00	DEVELOPER/DEMONSTRATOR PRESENTATIONS
7:00	Light Buffet Informal Discussion with Developer/Demonstrators

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

A. To inform participants of national dissemination and diffusion activities by introducing them to the views of recognized dissemination leaders and exemplary programs in selected areas in order to expand the views of Hawaii's educators.

B. To inform participants of such subject areas as Compensatory Education, Exceptional Children, Occupational Development, etc., of the services that the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System can provide to them.

C. To identify information and dissemination needs that subject areas have.

D. To provide participants the opportunity to examine some programs and to interact with the Developer/Demonstrators of these proven programs.

CONFERENCE DESIGN

The Conference will be conducted in three phases:

1. (a) Invite key personnel to Conference.
(Personnel on list 1-13 will be invited to the total Conference. Teachers and administrators will be invited to session beginning at 3:30 p.m.)

   (b) Invite speakers from national, regional and state dissemination efforts.

   (c) Inform participants about services Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System can provide.

   (d) Form small groups to discuss needs.
(Conference registration will determine how groups will be divided. Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System personnel will monitor and record for the small sessions.)

2. (a) Invite teachers and administrators to see Developer/Demonstrator programs. Flyers, posters to each school.

   (b) Provide all participants the opportunity to meet and discuss the NDN programs with the Developer/Demonstrators informally.

3. (a) Provide educators on neighbor islands with the opportunity to see demonstrations of exemplary programs and become aware of services Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System can provide.

   (b) Outer Island Conferences will follow this agenda:

      (1) Introduction by District Liaison:

George Walker	Hawaii
Mike Hazama	Maui
Al Nagata	Kauai

      (2) Short presentation of national effort - each island:

      Aven/Valletta

      (3) Presentation of Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System Services:

Kellet	/	Kathleen	/	Claire
Kauai		Maui		Hawaii

      (4) NDN Developer/Demonstrator's presentations.

Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System Conference, Oct. 19 and 20, 1979

CONFERENCE EVALUATION

I. Objectives

A. To have people in key areas of education in Hawaii participate in the state-wide conference.

1. Categories of Participants

a. HEDDS Advisory Council Members

b. District Superintendents/Deputies

c. Curriculum Research & Development Group Personnel, University of Hawaii

d. State Library Personnel

e. Occupational Development Personnel

f. Compensatory Education Personnel

g. Exceptional Children Personnel

h. Basic Skills Personnel

i. Northwest Regional Education Laboratory Personnel

j. Public and Private School Teachers & Administrators

2. Number of Participants

a. 75 district and state level personnel attended the morning session of the conference.

b. 250 teachers, administrators and district and state level personnel attended the afternoon session of the conference which focused on presentations by Developer/Demonstrators of exemplary educational programs approved by the Joint Dissemination Review Panel (JDRP).

c. 190 teachers, administrators and district level personnel attended the sessions on Maui, Kauai and Hawaii.

B. To inform participants of national dissemination and diffusion activities by giving them the opportunity to hear the views of recognized dissemination leaders.

1. The following presentations were made at the Oahu Conference:

a. National and regional dissemination effort presented by Virginia Thompson, Director, Dissemination Program, Northwest Regional Education Laboratory.

b. National Diffusion Network effort presented by Dr. Jim Aven, U.S.O.E.

c. Hawaii dissemination effort presented by Dr. Kellet Min, HEDDS Project Director.

d. "Improving Coordination Among Dissemination and Diffusion Activities", Dr. Von Valletta, Deputy Commissioner of Education, State of Minnesota.

2. Representatives of each of the dissemination areas--national, regional and Hawaii--spoke at the conferences on Maui, Kauai and Hawaii.

C. To inform participants from such subject areas as Compensatory Education, Exceptional Children, Occupational Development, Bilingual Education and Basic Skills, of the services that the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System can provide.

1. State and district level personnel from the above mentioned areas were present to hear the speakers from the national, regional and Hawaii dissemination efforts.

2. State and district level personnel from the above mentioned areas were given sample packets of the various forms of information HEDDS can provide, HEDDS brochures and search request forms, a glossary of dissemination terminology and one-page descriptions of several JDRP validated programs. Sample information in the packets, which were designated to interest the specific subject area specialists, were computer printouts of available ERIC documents, xerox copies of several journal articles, microfiche copies of several ERIC documents and R&D "minilists."

D. To identify dissemination needs of personnel from the subject areas.

1. Small group discussions were directed by members of the HEDDS staff and the conference planning committee to focus on dissemination needs and activities of the specific subject areas. A summary of the discussions is attached.

2. Conference evaluation forms provided another opportunity for participants to pinpoint areas of need.

E. To provide participants the opportunity to examine some exemplary programs and to interact with the Developer/Demonstrators of these programs.

1. Time was allotted at the Oahu Conference to have the participants each attend 3 presentations of their own selection. The following projects were presented:

   a. Project Home Base

   b. Positive Attitudes Towards Learning

   c. Project Learning Disability

   d. Project I-C-E

   e. Arizona Consortium for Individualized Learning

   f. Oklahoma Child Service Demonstration Center for Secondary LD Students

   g. Comprehensive School Mathematics Program

   h. Child Study Center

   i. Help One Student to Succeed

   j. Early Prevention of School Failure

   k. Priority One: Environment

   l. Institute for Political and Legal Education

   m. Positive Alternatives to Student Suspensions

   n. Vocational Reading Power

   o. Team Oriented Corrective Reading

   p. Student Team Learning

   q. Systematic Teaching and Measuring Mathematics

2. Prior to the conference, district personnel on Maui, Kauai and Hawaii selected the projects that would be of the greatest interest to the conference participants on those islands. Thus, 5 or 6 projects were represented on each island, with time alloted for each participant to attend 3 presentations of their own selection.

II. Evaluation

A. The conference objectives were fulfilled as is delineated in the first part of this report.

1. Conference participants learned about national and regional dissemination from Ms. Virginia Thompson, Director, Dissemination Support Services, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory; National Diffusion Network Dissemination efforts from Dr. James Aven, Hawaii project officer, Division of Educational Replication, U.S. Office of Education; and Hawaii's dissemination efforts from Dr. Kellet Min, Planning Administrator and the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System Project Director. Keynote speaker, Dr. Von Valletta, Deputy Commissioner, State of Minnesota, Department of Education, spoke on the importance of cooperation in the state among sections with dissemination components.

2. Conference participants had an opportunity to express curriculum, concept and skill area needs and dissemination efforts. This was the first time the groups were assembled to discuss dissemination by content areas. This conference has hopefully caused participants to think about dissemination efforts more systematically.

B. The design of the conference was a successful spread activity.

1. Conference participants were informed about Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory services, NDN services and Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System services.

2. Conference participants got to meet the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System staff members. Personal contact and later contact through evaluation forms, helped to facilitate usage of the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System.

EVALUATION OF SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Objective I: To Assure Clarification of Terms and Obtain Reactions to Presentations.

For many of the state and district personnel this was the first intensive exposure to organized dissemination efforts nationally, regionally and locally.

Participants needed clarification on role Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory plays in Hawaii, the role of the National Diffusion Network, role and services provided by the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System.

It was also an opportunity for mutual sharing. The small groups shared with the group facilitators common terms in their curriculum areas.

The small group discussions helped to clarify some of information presented by speakers and gave participants a chance to share with others their perceptions on dissemination.

The small group sessions were fruitful in that it was the first time state and district educational specialists got together by content area to discuss dissemination efforts.

Participants especially appreciated the overhead transparencies and handouts of Ms. Virginia Thompson, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, Dissemination Support Services Director.

Objective II: To Identify Information Dissemination Needs.

Listed below are the curriculum, concept or skill areas that state and district educational specialists in the following areas are concerned about:

Basic Skills:

1. Group felt first priority should be given to the Board of Education/Superintendents' expectations/mandates.

2. Group felt there was a need for an integrated curriculum.

3. Group felt there was a need for a better assessment process, in general, and for better synthesis and interpretation of gathered data. Areas that group felt measures of achievement and tests were needed are oral communication, values and problem solving at all grade levels.

4. Group felt there was a need for information and assistance in developing and researching programs of credit by examination in areas such as English, language arts and mathematics. Group would like to know what other school districts are doing. What are the results of credits by examination programs (e.g. How many students take these options? How does it change student population? Do teachers lose jobs?)?

Bilingual:

1. Group feels there is a need to develop activities for Limited English Speakers K-6 in Language Arts and Mathematics. The field demonstrator then trains the project teacher in the activities.

2. Group feels they need help in assessing teacher (Bilingual Bicultural) competencies.

3. Group felt Bilingual staff needed assistance in conducting conferences and meetings.

Compensatory Education:

1. Group felt there was a need for information and for inservicing in content area reading (reading in the content area). They felt that the University of Hawaii doesn't offer needed courses.

2. Group felt there was a need for information and inservicing to help regular education teachers to work with handicapped children (mainstreaming special education students, especially SLD).

3. Group felt there was a need for information and inservicing (coupled with bilingual studies). Group relationships among students needed to be developed.

4. Group felt that more Title I programs should be included in the National Diffusion Network. Twenty-one of the NDN are Title I.

5. Group felt that state programs should be more rigorously evaluated but that personnel may not have expertise to evaluate.

6. Group also had concerns about evaluation process of national exemplary programs (also some Compensatory Education personnel were not aware that Hawaii's Title I was included in catalog as a national exemplary program).

7. Group felt that a state validation process was needed badly.

8. Group felt that not enough of the educators know about the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System.

9. Group felt that the Department of Education lacked a central place for state produced documents and publications. Can HEDDS provide this service? Educators felt they had problems finding what was on their shelves. Group also suggested that the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System work with the state Technical Assistance Center.

10. Group felt there was a need for better coordination with data bases and other private and public libraries for information from the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System.

Exceptional Child Education:

Group was unable to complete objectives II, III & IV.

Vocational Education:

Vocational Education personnel had a meeting of their own and were unable to attend. One vocational education representative from the Office of Instructional Services was present to represent the group. He joined special education group for small group discussions.

Objective III: To Identify Dissemination Efforts of Participants.

The groups attending the conference were specifically targeted because they had dissemination responsibilities. Also because we are a single state-wide school system, these individuals were also directly responsible for publication of documents and/or dissemination of documents to the field. Groups varied in the amounts and kinds of dissemination efforts that they participated in.

The Compensatory Education group in particular felt that the state lacked a central place for storing and obtaining state documents and wondered if the Hawaii Educational Dissemination Diffusion System could serve as clearinghouse.

Objective IV: To Consider Alternatives for Future Directions.

Because this was the first experience for many, the amount of knowledge received was overwhelming for some. The groups did not have any concrete alternatives but the general feeling was that this was a beginning and that the whole state would need to get together to pool expertise, resources and funds. Change takes time but the seeds for thought have been planted.